



Representative Barbara Bailey

10th District

Public Safety Report and Survey

Keeping our neighborhoods safe and secure

Dear neighbors,

The 10th Legislative District is one of the best and most beautiful places to live in Washington state. Families want and expect our neighborhoods to remain safe.

Legislation I opposed that passed during the 2007 legislative session, however, threatens to bring more convicts who have served their time back into our local communities. Studies have shown that more than half of released offenders will reoffend. I am concerned that we have the necessary resources in place to protect our communities.

I am also very concerned about a movement in Olympia that sympathizes with criminals and focuses more on the rights of felons than on the rights of victims. We've witnessed proposals to reduce prison time, water down the state's "Three Strikes" law, and provide for restoration of felons' voting rights before they satisfy restitution requirements. There also is a reluctance by some to address the growing problem of gang violence in our communities, and the early release of 83 felons in February, including a Level III sex offender. This is not the right direction for our state.

There is no more fundamental duty of government than ensuring the protection of its citizens, and especially children and our most vulnerable adults. As your state representative, I am committed to work for laws that will keep our families safe and protect our neighborhoods.

Your input in this process is also very important. That's why I am including a survey that seeks your opinion about the best ways to accomplish these goals. Please take a few moments to complete the survey and mail it back to me. Thank you in advance for your participation.

Together, we can preserve the wonderful quality of life we enjoy in the 10th District.

Sincerely,

Rep. Barbara Bailey
10th District



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Representative Barbara Bailey • 10th District

Why be concerned?

- In February, 83 offenders under the authority of the Department of Corrections were released before serving their sentences. Among them were felons who had committed violent crimes, including a Level III sex offender.
- A new law (SB 6157) requires inmates who have served their time to be released to the county in which they committed their **first** crimes. This could mean an increase of released prisoners to our local communities.
- Research from the Washington Institute for Public Policy shows that 54 percent of released offenders will commit a new felony within 13 years.
- More than 1,300 sex offenders are not registered and unaccounted for.
- Nearly 400 sex offenders are living in our local communities in Island, Skagit and Snohomish counties.
- Legislation is pending in Olympia that would allow felons back into the community after serving only half their time, and would restore their voting rights even though they have not satisfied compensation requirements to their victims. Another bill would remove assault from the list of “strikes” in sentencing offenders to life in prison.



Holding sex offenders accountable

Nearly 140 Level III sex offenders live in Island, Skagit and Snohomish counties. Level III offenders are at the highest risk to potentially re-offend if provided the opportunity. We should do what is necessary to hold sex offenders accountable and keep our neighborhoods safe. I am working with colleagues in the House of Representatives on a five-point plan to keep sex offenders in check:

- Place a GPS tracking device on all Level III sex offenders and all felons convicted of a felony sex offense against a minor.
- Sex offenders who violate the terms of their parole (failure to register, etc.) will receive a mandatory minimum one-year prison sentence.
- Give community corrections officers the ability to perform random home searches of all sex offenders on community supervision to ensure they are complying with terms of their release.
- Community notification for all levels of sex offenders moving into neighborhoods (not just the Level III offenders).
- Require all sex offenders to register their e-mail address (and website, if any) along with their physical address.

Public safety efforts

I co-sponsored the following public safety bills during the 2007 session:

- **Families before Felons (HB 2393)**
 - Would have frozen early release of felons, stepped up Department of Corrections supervision of felons upon release, and required offenders who violate the conditions of their release to return to prison to serve out the remainder of their sentences. Unfortunately, the majority party refused to allow this bill to move forward.
- **Auto theft penalties (HB 1001)**
 - Increases penalties for car theft and vehicle prowls and creates a crime for making or possessing tools often used to steal vehicles. This bill was signed into law.
- **Eluding a police vehicle (HB 1030)**
 - Would impose one-year prison sentences for endangering others while eluding police vehicles. Passed the House, but stalled in the Senate.
- **Electronic monitoring of sex offenders (HB 1133)** - Would have investigated stepping up usage of electronic monitoring of sex offenders. Held in the House Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Committee.



Rep. Barbara Bailey recently met with local law enforcement officials to work collaboratively on additional ideas and solutions that will make our communities safer.

10th District Public Safety Survey from Rep. Barbara Bailey

Your input is vital to making sure your voice is heard in Olympia. To help with tabulation, please record your responses by **shading the entire circle** of your answer using a **blue** or **black pen**. Please record any additional comments in the area provided on the back page. When you are finished, cut this page from the newsletter, fold it to expose the return address panel, affix a 41¢ stamp and mail. Thank you for providing me with your valuable feedback.

1. On a scale of 1 to 5, how safe do you feel in your neighborhood?

(least safe) 1 2 3 4 5 (most safe)
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

2. Recent legislation signed into law requires inmates who have served their time to be released to the county in which they committed their **first** crimes. This could mean an increase of released prisoners to our local communities. Does this concern you and, if so, to what level?

(least concerned) 1 2 3 4 5 (very concerned)
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

3. Do you feel that law enforcement in your community has sufficient resources to adequately protect public safety?

☐ Yes ☐ No

4. Legislation is pending in Olympia that would allow felons back into the community after serving only half their time. Do you support early release of felons?

☐ Yes ☐ No

5. A bill has been proposed that would restore felons' voting rights even though they have not satisfied their victims' compensation requirements. Do you support this proposal?

☐ Yes ☐ No

6. Should offenders who violate the conditions of their release be returned to prison to serve out the remainder of their sentences?

☐ Yes ☐ No

7. Should a GPS tracking device be placed on all Level III sex offenders and all felons convicted of a felony sex offense against a minor?

☐ Yes ☐ No

8. Should sex offenders who violate the terms of their parole (failure to register, etc.) receive a mandatory minimum one-year prison sentence?

☐ Yes ☐ No

9. Should community corrections officers have the ability to perform random home searches of sex offenders on community supervision to ensure they are complying with terms of their release?

☐ Yes ☐ No

10. Should community notification be required for all levels of sex offenders moving into neighborhoods (not just the Level III offenders)?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____



Please
place
stamp
here



Representative
Barbara Bailey

P.O. Box 40600
Olympia, WA 98504-0600

Please cut along dotted line

Keeping track of sex offenders

Awareness is the key in keeping your family safe. Our local law enforcement agencies have set up the following websites to help you be aware of the locations of registered sex offenders in our communities.



Island County: <http://www.islandcounty.net/sheriff/Sexoffender.htm>

Skagit County: http://www.skagitcounty.net/Common/Asp/Default.asp?d=Sheriff&c=General&p=sex_offenders.htm

Snohomish County: http://www1.co.snohomish.wa.us/Departments/Sheriff/Services/Sex_Offender

Washington State Sex Offender Information Center

..... <http://ml.waspc.org>

Rep. Barbara Bailey's Public Safety Survey

Comments: _____

If you would like to be included in future correspondence via e-mail, please fill out the following information:

Name: _____

E-mail address: _____

Let's talk over coffee!

I'm always interested in your thoughts, comments, suggestions and questions. What better way to do it than over a cup of coffee? Please join me at my "Coffee Talks" at the following locations and times. Come even if you don't drink coffee!

Wednesday, Oct. 10

LaConner

9 a.m. - 10 a.m.

Calico Cupboard • 720 S. 1st St.

Camano Island

1 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Islander's Restaurant

848 N. Sunrise Blvd.

Thursday, Oct. 11

Freeland

10 a.m. - 11 a.m.

1504 Coffee Bar & Deli

18220 State Route 525, #7

(Next to Texaco)

Coupeville

1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Miriam's Espresso Cafe

200 S. Main, Suite B

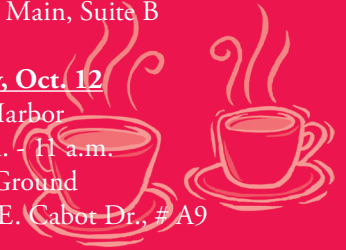
Friday, Oct. 12

Oak Harbor

10 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Solid Ground

275 S.E. Cabot Dr., # A9



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